TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2331 – SB 3066

February 20, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Coordinator of Elections, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Safety, to establish a mobile unit program for the purpose of equipping mobile units across the state to issue free photo identifications to persons who meet certain voting requirements. Requires the mobile unit to focus on services to elderly, disabled, and indigent residents living in remote areas who lack transportation to a facility where photo identification could be obtained. Requires the Coordinator of Elections to post times and locations of the mobile unit(s) on the Secretary of State's website.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$157,500/One-Time \$253,700/Recurring

Assumptions:

- The Driver Services Division in the Department of Safety currently does not have a mobile or portable unit(s) as part of its issuance process.
- The Driver Services staff and staff members of the Coordinator of Elections office will be required to travel to areas across the state where elderly, disabled, and indigent residents live and issue photo identifications for voting purposes only.
- To establish these units in remote areas, the Department of Safety and the Coordinator of Elections must locate state facilities or local government facilities that are tied to the state's mainframe system in order to access the driver license issuance database.
- Contracts or a memoranda of understanding will be required between the department and the lessors of the facilities identified to issue the voter identification licenses.
- According to the Department of Safety, establishing a mobile unit program will necessitate the purchase of two Portable Enrollment Stations from the state's card issuance vendor at a one-time cost of \$153,000 (includes \$86,000 for hardware and \$67,000 for software development).
- There will be a one-time operational cost of \$4,500 (\$900 per employee x 5).
- According to the Department of Safety, five employees will be required to operate the mobile or portable unit(s) at a cost of \$37,147 per employee (salary \$21,816; benefits \$10,831; and operational cost \$2,500), resulting in a recurring increase in state expenditures of \$175,735 (\$37,147 x 5).
- There will be an increase in recurring state expenditures of \$10,000 for equipment and supplies and \$20,000 for vehicle fuel and maintenance.

- According to the Coordinator of Elections, the Division of Elections will require one full-time employee to perform the duties set out by the bill, resulting in recurring state expenditures of \$47,950 (\$35,000 salary and \$12,950 benefits).
- The total one-time increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$157,500 (\$86,000 + \$67,000 + \$4,500).
- The total recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$253,685 (\$175,735 + \$10,000 + \$20,000 + \$47,950).

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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